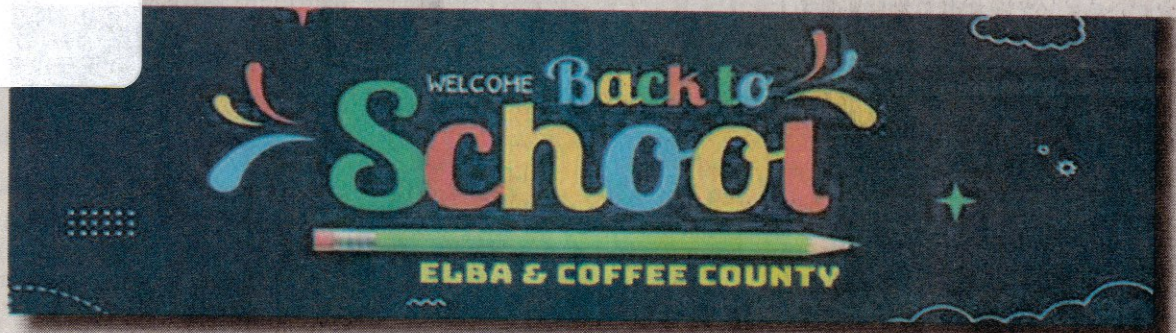




The Elba Clipper

Volume 129, Number 12 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, August 7, 2025 1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 2 Adv Inserts

Elba BOE delivers positive vibes with Back-to-School Bash for students and community

by Linda Hodge, Publisher

In anticipation of students returning to school this week for the 202-2026 school year, the Elba City Schools Board of Education held a “Back-to-School Bash” Monday evening, Aug. 4, at the Elba High School gymnasium.

This event was open to students, parents, and community members. Thanks

to donations from sponsors, the Elba BOE members were able to pass out some free school supplies to students along with hot dogs, chips and drinks to all in attendance.

Parents enjoyed a laid-back atmosphere to talk with teachers, administrators and board members while the students enjoyed playing games and/or just sitting around talking with

their friends.

Elba BOE member DeAnn Grantham said the idea for the Back-to-School Bash generated from the summer school board conference the board members attended.

“We heard a lot about community engagement during that conference, and our board member Miranda Russell came up with the idea for this event,” Grantham said. “The idea was to host a back-to-school event that would give a positive vibe going into the new school year...just lift everyone up.”

Based on the smiles on the faces of those in attendance and feedback from Monday night’s event, the Elba BOE members achieved their goal. The event was well attended and deemed a huge success by all involved.

“We are very excited over the success we had Monday night for this first Back-to-School Bash hosted by the Elba Board of Education for Elba City Schools,” Grantham said. “We already have begun planning for an even bigger event next year.”



Several Elba students are shown enjoying Monday night’s Back-to-School Bash held at the high school gym. There were lots of smiles on faces, young and old, as the community came together for the event. See more photos from the event on Page 2 of today’s paper.

See BASH, Page 2

Elba’s Samantha Parks steps into role as executive director of Serenity South Elba

by Linda Hodge, Publisher

Serenity South Senior Living of Elba recently welcomed a new face as its executive director for the Elba facility, and residents are thrilled the new director is a ‘hometown’ girl.

Elba native/resident Samantha Parks took on the role as executive director of the Serenity South Senior Living Elba facility at the beginning of July. She brought with her to the role over 18 years of healthcare experience with a strong background in senior care. She also is a licensed assisted living administrator, certified by the Alabama Board of Directors.

Further, Parks serves as the marketing coordinator for all three Serenity South locations – Elba, Enterprise, and Troy.

After years of working through the ranks of long-term elderly care and hospice, Parks said she applied for the executive director job at Serenity South in Elba upon the encouragement of several community members. Also, she said she talked with her husband about it, and he was onboard in support of whatever she decided to do.

Now, Parks feels she has made a very good career choice, and residents of the Elba community of Serenity South seem to agree wholeheartedly.

“She gets two thumbs up,” said resident Carolyn Colvin. “She is an Elba woman and will treat us like family. She is a Godsend.”

Resident Sue Johnson agrees saying she really loves Parks.

“You can just look at her and tell she is going to do a good job,” Johnson said.

Colvin, the assisted living facility’s longest in-community resident, said it really does make a differ-



Samantha Parks of Elba is the new executive director of Serenity South Elba - the local assisted living community. She said she loves her new job and always wants the residents to feel they are loved and cared for at Serenity South.

ence having a hometown girl serving as executive director.

“I am so happy with the job she is doing for us,” Colvin said.

Currently, Serenity South Elba has 10 residents. At full capacity, there are 16 beds to be filled.

To be a part of the community, a resident must be able to complete at least 90 percent of his/her daily living activities. The assisted living environment is private pay and designed to simply assist the residents

See PARKS, Page 3

Area Happenings

The Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama will hold a meeting Saturday, Aug. 16, at 1 p.m., at Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama, Tribal Complex, Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama State Reservation, 2950 County Road 377, Elba, Alabama 36323.

The Elba Lions Club will meet Tuesday, Aug. 19, at 6 p.m., at the Elba Senior Center. There will be a guest speaker attending. All members are encouraged to attend.



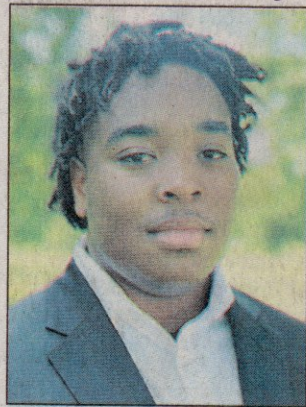
Emergency personnel in Elba responded Thursday night, July 31, to the scene of a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Ala. Hwy. 203 and Taylor Mill Rd. in Elba. The accident was reported at 8:28 p.m. Fortunately, there were no known injuries as a result of this accident. The vehicle pictured above was traveling on Hwy. 203 when a vehicle on Taylor Mill Rd. failed to yield right-of-way at the stop sign and pulled into oncoming traffic on Hwy. 203. Elba Police investigated the accident.

Elba High senior Caden Kyles trained in economic and community development

Elba’s Caden Kyles was one of 35 high school students representing 25 Alabama Chambers of Commerce to attend the sixth Huntingdon College Economic and Community Development Scholars Program this summer.

Kyles represented the Elba Chamber of Commerce at the event.

A rising senior at Elba High School and a well rounded student, Kyles was chosen because of his leadership qualities. He is a top scholar, a football standout, and citizenship winner. He attended the two-day, one-night experience held on Huntingdon’s campus was hosted by Huntingdon College in partnership with the Huntingdon College Presidential Scholars Program and the Chamber of



Caden Kyles

Commerce Association of Alabama. The immersive experience was designed to introduce Alabama students to the importance of economic and community development across the state and in their communities.

Participants were selected by their local Chamber of Commerce and the Hunting-

don College Presidential Scholars Program. During the program, the students had the opportunity to meet and learn about the facets of economic development from Dr. Anthony Leigh, President of Huntingdon College, Jim Searcy, Executive Director of the Economic Development Association of Alabama, Paige Hutto, President and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, Jess Skaggs, Chief of Staff for the Lieutenant Governor’s Office for the State of Alabama, and Bria Rochelle-Stephens, Vice President for Strategic Academic Initiatives and Director for the Huntingdon College Presidential Scholars Program.

See KYLES, Page 3

Lockett seeks reelection to Elba City Council, District 1

After careful consideration and a deep commitment to community, Johnathan T. Lockett announces his decision to seek reelection for the Elba City Council seat representing District 1.

“This decision comes as a natural next step in my journey of public service, driven by a passion to continue serving our community and contributing to its growth and development,” Lockett said. “As a current city council member, I have had the privilege of working alongside dedicated individuals who share a common goal: to make Elba a better place for all its residents. Through my service, I have gained valuable experience and insight into the needs and concerns of our community.”

He said this experience has equipped him with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively address the challenges Elba faces and to advocate for the interests of District 1.

“My platform is built on the principles of transparency, accountability, and community engagement. I



Johnathan Lockett

believe in working collaboratively with residents and local businesses to identify and implement solutions that benefit our community as a whole,” Lockett said. “Whether it’s improving infrastructure, supporting local initiatives, or enhancing public services, my goal is to ensure that Elba remains a vibrant and thriving place to live, work, and raise a family. I’ve always been committed to listening to the concerns of our residents and to being a responsive and accessible representative.”

Lockett said he believes effective governance requires a strong connection

with the community, and he is dedicated to maintaining an open dialogue with the people he serves.

“The biggest concern I have heard is that Elba needs positive change, and I couldn’t agree more,” he said. “We have set in motion processes and ordinances in good faith that would be an asset to our community. However, in the process from vision casting to implementation, some of the policies and ordinances did not work in our favor.”

He added, “When what you thought would be a good thing goes south, you recall the policies and ordinances and go back to the drawing board to see what worked and what did not work. That’s been my experience, and with experience comes better working knowledge, which I feel helps me to qualify for a chance to be reelected.”

Lockett said he has learned the importance of adaptability and resilience in government, and he is committed to using those lessons to drive positive

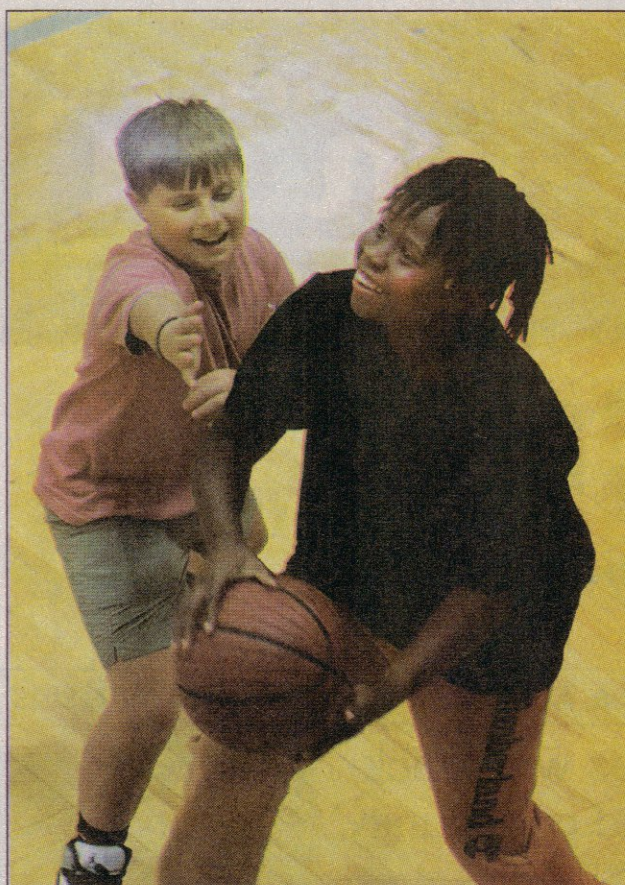
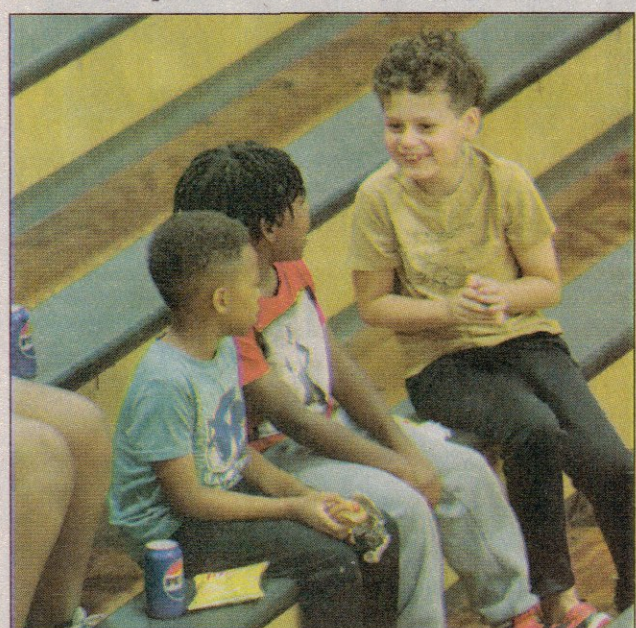
See SEAT, Page 3

BASH

Continued from Page 1

Grantham added, "We definitely want to give a huge shoutout to our event sponsors. Their donations were the backbone to the success of the event."

Gold Sponsors for the event were Kustom Kreations and Mark Dunning Industries (MDI); Silver Sponsors were A Best Pools, Elba Finance, Elba Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Foshee Architecture, Gappa Wise Construction, Oak Grove Baptist Church, PowerSouth, and TW Orthodontics; Bronze Sponsors were Dorsey Trailer, Elba Water & Electric Board, Ellis Realty, and Westside Baptist Church; and other Donors included Andalusia Distributing Company, Elba Masonic Lodge, JJ's BBQ, Pepsi, and Southern Engineering Solutions.



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August 11, 2025

Last Day to Apply for Absentee Ballot by Mail: August 19, 2025

Last Day to Apply for Absentee in Person: August 21, 2025

Last Day to Hand-Deliver Absentee Ballot: August 25, 2025

Last Day to Return Absentee Ballot by Mail: August 26, 2025 by Noon

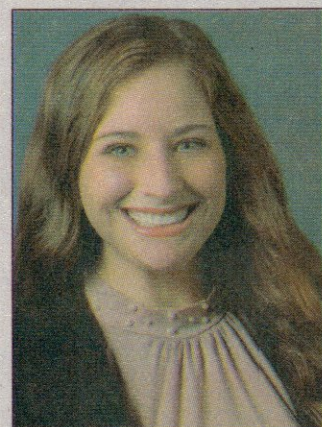
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Windy Thoughts

with Linda Hodge, Publisher

The Elba Board of Education did a great job in hosting the Back-to-School Bash for the community earlier this week. We had a great view of all as we were serving as the "DJ" for music at the event. We were up in the balcony of the high school gym, and it was great to watch everyone enjoy themselves at this event. School board members wanted to create a positive vibe leading into the start of school this week, and we certainly think they did that. It was obvious this was an event where folks simply enjoyed mingling and talking with one another, and the kids enjoyed playing games and catching up. There were smiles all over the place, and that was our best 'sign' that it was a job well done by the Elba School Board members. We thank them for their forward thinking actions that led to a great evening at Elba High School.

Now, we are going to hit on a topic that most likely we would never have done, but in this instance it involves a mayoral candidate for Elba. That is our reason for bringing the matter to light. We feel the voters of the city should at least be aware of the matter. Last week, the Elba Water and Electric Board filed suit in Small Claims Court in Coffee County against Marty's Subway, Inc. This business is connected to a candidate for mayor in the City of Elba. According to the court documents, which are public record, the Elba W&E Board claims Marty's Subway, Inc. owes the water and electric board \$3,689.23 in unpaid utility services charges. The suit refers to the defendant, Marty's Subway, Inc. as a business operating within the jurisdiction of the court. Further it claims the Elba Water and Electric Board provided utility services, including electricity/water/sewer/trash collection to the defendant from February 2011 through Nov. 18, 2024 that have gone unpaid. The suit claims multiple attempts have been made to collect the unpaid balance but those attempts have gone unsatisfied.

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Change Doesn't Happen Unless You Vote Make It Count on August 26

As part of his Elba Forward campaign, Carlos J. Magwood is proposing a bold yet practical vision to revitalize the city through strategic infrastructure upgrades, government transparency, and targeted economic growth.

Central to his platform is the introduction of a modern public dashboard, giving residents real-time access to updates on utility outages, road projects, drainage improvements, and city spending—accessible via mobile devices and the city's website.

"We can't move Elba forward without trust and communication," Magwood said. "This dashboard will give residents the transparency they deserve and the information they need."

A cornerstone of Elba Forward is the creation of a lean, focused Economic Development Department, initially staffed by one full-time professional. This role will be responsible for:

- Marketing Elba to potential investors and businesses
 - Highlighting local assets and opportunities
 - Pursuing state, federal, and discretionary grant funding
 - Supporting strategic infrastructure projects to improve livability and business readiness
- Magwood cited several urgent infrastructure needs that Elba Forward aims to address:
- Aging utility poles and overgrown trees that threaten power reliability
 - Poor road conditions worsened by ineffective water runoff systems
 - Understaffing in the electric department, which operates with four out of five authorized employees to maintain 88 miles of power lines and 4,000 light poles for 1,600 customers
- By strengthening grant-writing capacity and aligning infrastructure investments with economic development goals, Magwood believes Elba can position itself for sustainable growth and job creation.
- "Elba has everything it needs to thrive—what we need now is leadership, vision, and action," Magwood said. Residents have responded positively to the Elba Forward message, with many welcoming the focus on transparency, smart growth, and long-overdue infrastructure investment.

Elect Carlos J. Magwood for Mayor. Let's move Elba Forward—together.

Paid Political Advertisement By The Committee to Elect Carlos J Magwood P.O. Box 41 Elba, AL 36323



The Elba Lodge 170 held a regular meeting and initiated Michael (Mike) Harris Lait into Masonry on Monday Aug. 4, 2025. Food, Fellowship, and Work were enjoyed by all. Those present included (front, l to r) Dale Stewart, Chris Wood, Gauge Ballard, W/M Mike Amison, Candidate Michael Harris Lait, Jessie Jones, Mark Fitzgerald, Mark Davis, Eddie Kelley, Jeff Skeen, Allan Crenshaw, and Thomas McBride; (middle, l to r) Daniel Stephens, Wendell Black, Chris Miller, Tim Marler, Paul Adams, Larry Shaw, Shane Spears, Ethen Dodd, Michael Phelps, Troy Gideon III, Matthew Brunson Jr., Matthew Brunson Sr., and Scott Cole; (back, l to r) Tommy Morrow, Seth Hanchey, Jack Caradine, and Mike Murphy. Picture by Harry Young

KYLES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

To receive hands-on experience in economic and community development, the students were divided into groups and assigned a city in Alabama to represent. The group was tasked with creating a city logo, assuming public office identities, then

using their knowledge of their hometown to vie for a corporation to make their headquarters in the city. After completing assignments in the project, the teams' gave their final pitch to President Leigh and guests. The winning team was highlighted in a

groundbreaking ceremony and ribbon cutting ceremony after the final presentations.

"Every year, this program brings together the cream of the crop from high schools across Alabama," said Leigh. "All of these students are ambitious, dynamic leaders. They have eager-to-learn attitudes, and they are passionate about their local communities. They have a genuine spirit of involvement, they are highly creative, and they obviously enjoy connecting with other students just like them."

Sandy Williams is director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce. Williams along with Board Chair Beverly Hamilton and Board of Directors Joey Daniels, Lisa Johnson, Melonee Blair, Justin Maddox, Kim Smith, Melissa Wood, Gappa Wise, Raeann McCollough, and Michael Moseley, noticed special characteristics in Kyles.

"Caden made an exceptional ambassador for Elba," Williams said. "He is a proven difference maker and students like Caden Kyles give me great confidence that Alabama's future is very bright."

Rochelle-Stephens added, "I have been greatly impressed by the students who have participated in the program this year! I am excited to see how they apply the knowledge that they've learned at ECDS, and I look forward to meeting, working with, and learning from even more students next year!"

PARKS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

with their medications, care, and meals.

"Our residents are able to come and go, and they can still drive while here," Parks said. "They don't have a curfew - we just assist them with their meds, care and meals."

The main thing Parks said she stresses about her new role as the executive director is that she doesn't feel it is about her at all. Instead, she said it is all about the residents.

"This job is not about me. It's about the residents

and the care they receive," Parks said. "I always tell the employees they can call or text me anytime - even when I am off work at home. I only live two minutes away and can be here quickly if needed."

That is one thing Parks said she believes helps the residents. They have a sense of security because they know she lives in Elba just down the road from them.

"We just love her," Colvin said. "Like I said... she gets two thumbs up."

SEAT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

change in the community.

"As a dedicated public servant, I currently serve in various capacities, that enable me to make a positive impact in our community," he said. "I chair the Zoning Board Committee and serve on the Board of Directors of the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning & Development Commission. Additionally, I serve as the assistant pastor of Harris Temple COGIC in the heart of the Mulberry Community in Elba and as an advisor to the Mulberry Heights Community Coalition."

He said these roles have given him a deeper understanding of the needs and concerns of the community, and he is committed to using that knowledge to drive positive change.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to continue serving our community, and I look forward to earning your support in the upcoming election," Lockett said. "Together, we can build a brighter future for Elba and ensure that our city remains a great place to call home. I am excited to work collaboratively with residents to identify and implement solutions that benefit our community as a whole. Let's work together to make Elba an even better place to live, work, and raise a family."

LEGAL NOTICES:

Resolution 07282025

A Resolution to Appoint the 2025 Election Officials

WHEREAS, a regular municipal election has been called to be held on the 26th day of August 2025, and a runoff election to be held, if necessary, on the 23rd day of September 2025; and

WHEREAS, Section 11-46-27 of the Alabama Code 1975, and regulations adopted pursuant thereto provide, in part, that the municipal governing body, no less than 10 days before holding of any municipal election, appoint from the municipality officers to hold the election as follows: where electronic ballot counters are used, at least one inspector and three clerks; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Elba, Alabama, that the 2025 Election Officers for said election shall be as follows:

Inspector: Chris Sutley
Registration Clerk: Velma Moore
Gladly Yelverton
Ballot Clerk: Mac Moore
Wayne Sutley
Poll List Clerk: Nancy Crowe
Assistant Clerk: Joan Ward

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED; the City Clerk may amend the above list as needed due to unforeseen circumstances.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED; each clerk will be paid one hundred and sixty dollars, and the inspector will receive one hundred and eighty-five dollars for work on August 26, 2025. Should a run-off election be needed all clerks and inspector will be paid at the same rate for September 23, 2025.

PASSES, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS THE 28TH DAY OF JULY 2025.

Tom Maddox, Mayor
Sally Bane, City Clerk
8/7-chg.

Obituaries

MURRAY JOHNS

Mr. Murray Johns, age 81, died peacefully at home in Lake Mary, Florida, surrounded by love.

He was a devoted husband, loving father, and loyal friend to many. He began his sales career in 1964 with Procter & Gamble and remained with the company for 31 years until his retirement in 1995. He retired alongside his lifelong friends, who took up bass fishing and golfing in their newfound free time. Their "Old Guys" fishing trip became an annual tradition, and Murray found himself on the golf course with friends twice a week for nearly 30 years, usually capping it off with a cold Miller Lite on the 19th hole. He loved Alabama football, traveling to both home and away games for many years.

Murray always had a love and a talent for music, especially country music. Growing up in Elba, Alabama, he sang bass in a gospel quartet with his brother and sisters. They were even featured on a local gospel radio show when Murray was only 11 years old. Later, at the University of Alabama, he toured and sang in a trio with his sisters. Family holidays often ended with a singalong, Murray at the piano, banging out the tunes.

When Murray moved his family to Maitland Woods in 1978, he found his true home. There were a lot of good times, and the friendships he made there lasted a lifetime. He lived in Maitland for more than 40 years.

All friends and family are invited to join the family in celebrating his life Sunday, Aug. 10, at 4 p.m., at The Ballroom at Dubsread in Orlando. Bring a story to share, and we can all "Eat, Drink, and Be Murray!"

Murray was predeceased by Joan Cooper Johns, his wife of 34 years; his brother, Norman Johns; and his sister, Nelda Coleman.

Survivors include his loving wife of 21 years, Teresa Johns, and their dog, Buster; his daughters and sons-in-law, Kelly & Sean Belgrade, and Allison & Javier Delgado; his grandchildren, Ryan Belgrade, Courtney & Hollyn Belhart, and Sam and Lia Delgado; his sister, Myrna

Cotton of Elba, Ala.; and a large extended family.

CAROL EVELYN HARBUCK

Mrs. Carol Evelyn Harbuck, age 80, a resident of Elba, Ala., died Thursday, July 31, 2025, at her home surrounded by family.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2025, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Mike Medley officiating. Burial followed in the New Haven Baptist Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. Harbuck was preceded in death by her husband, Dallas Harbuck, by a daughter, Deanna Harbuck, and her parents, Clara and Deroe Hudson.

Survivors include her daughter, Teresa Lynne Reeves, Elba; son, Anthony "Tony" Harbuck, Elba; her grandchildren, Justin Odom, Amy Hill, Rodney Gunderman, & Marissa McClendon; great-grandchildren, Makaley Odom, Gavin Daniels, Nova Boles, Chance Boles, Alexander McClendon, and Kratos McClendon.

DOUGLAS JEFFERSON BURDESHAW

Mr. Douglas Jefferson Burdeshaw, age 60, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, July 30, 2025, at Southeast Health in Dothan, Ala.

Graveside services were held Friday, Aug. 1, 2025, from the Woodland Grove

Community Cemetery with Rev. Derek Snellgrove officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directed the services.

Douglas was preceded in death by his wife - Irene Burdeshaw, father - Douglas Wayne Burdeshaw, and brother - Joshua J. Burdeshaw.

Survivors include his son, Travis (Alyson) Burdeshaw, Elba; granddaughter, Audrey Nikole Burdeshaw, Elba; sisters, Maggie M Burdeshaw, Elba, Linda S Burdeshaw, New Brockton, Ala.; brothers, Wayne E Burdeshaw, New Brockton, Brave Yaun, Ozark, Ala.; his mother, Dasey Ginnettie Burdeshaw, Elba; nephews, Phillip (Lydia) Burdeshaw, Bradley (Megan) Burdeshaw, Tyler Burdeshaw, Brice Burdeshaw, and Bo Burdeshaw, all of New Brockton, Joseph Burdeshaw and Gunnar Burdeshaw, both of Elba, Brandon Duncan, Hopkinsville, Ky., Bret Burdeshaw, Enterprise, Ala., Landon Owens, Cullman, Ala.; nieces, Brittany Bright, and Nova Bright, both of Enterprise, Dasey Burdeshaw, Morgan Burdeshaw, and Paige Burdeshaw, all of Cullman, Dixie Burdeshaw, and Theresa Clary, both of New Brockton.



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Why Do We Use Flowers at Funerals?

Flowers at funerals are no new idea, as they have been found at ancient Neanderthal burial sites dating back to 60,000 B.C.E. Blossoms have been a crucial part of the funeral process for much of human history. However, they have not always been used as decoration or as a symbol of sympathy and emotion. Rather, their origin is much more practical.

Before embalming, which started in the 1800s, flowers were used to cover up some of the natural processes of the deceased. Ancient writings, as old as the Talmud, have referenced fragrant flowers, as well as spices, being used in such a manner.

In order to keep an inviting way for loved ones who wanted to personally say goodbye to the departed, flowers created a more welcoming environment. Flowers were readily available and naturally scented, making them an ideal alternative to perfumes.

In the Victorian era, the deceased was set out in the family's home for many days; large bouquets were used to maintain a fresh and welcoming atmosphere for visitors. Many of the shapes of funeral arrangements we see today originate from this period. The size, color, look, and even grandeur of the offerings were seen as an important way to pay tribute to the deceased.

While the historic use of flowers in funerals has changed, there are a few other key reasons why they are still an essential part of many burial rites. First, they are symbolic. After embalming became commonplace, flowers transformed into a symbol and took on many different forms, including the circular wreath, which reminded onlookers of eternal life.

From its original purpose of offering a fresh scent during funeral procedures, blossoms are modernly used to send messages of comfort to those who are mourning. Flowers also represent the character of the person who has passed. By incorporating them into the service, blossoms create a blissful environment for those who are saddened by the departure of their loved one.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at
hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RUBY LEE MERRIEX, Deceased.

CASE NO. PR-2025-100

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Elizabeth Michelle Stallworth as Administrator of the Estate of Ruby Lee Merriex, deceased, on the 14th day of July, 2025 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. /s/ Jodee R. Thompson Judge of Probate 7/24, 31 & 8/7-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONNIE KENNINGTON, DECEASED

CASE NO.: PR-2025-151

NOTICE OF HEARING TO: Richard Lamar Oliver III and to all Known and Unknown heirs at law and next of kin of DONNIE KENNINGTON who may be unknown and are not named.

You are hereby notified that TINA PATRICK has filed a Petition to probate a document purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Donnie Kennington, deceased.

A hearing on said petition has been set for the 27th day of August, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at which time you may appear and contest the same if you see fit.

DONE AND ORDERED this 21st day of July, 2025 /s/ Jodee R. Thompson JUDGE OF PROBATE 7/24, 31 & 8/7-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JUDY KAYE SHERLING DECEASED

CASE NO.: PC-2025-051

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 24th day of July, 2025, by the Hon. Jodee Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of COFFEE County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred. GLEN T. BARNES, III By: /s/ Chelsea Hester Attorney for Personal Representative 7/31, 8/7 & 14-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: LYNDIA GAIL RICHARDSON, DECEASED.

CASE NO.: PC-2025-053

NOTICE

Letters of Testamentary on the estate of said deceased, LYNDIA GAIL RICHARDSON, having been granted to Gussie Mae Helms on the 22nd day of July, 2025, by the Honorable Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. Done this the 22nd day of July, 2025.

LEGAL NOTICES:

Public Notices also are posted online at: www.alabamapublicnotices.com (no extra charge)

-- More Legal Notices on Page 5 --

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
HON. JODEE R. THOMPSON

Probate Judge
Coffee County, Alabama
7/31, 8/7 & 14-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF KIRK CARL WEBER, DECEASED.

CASE NO.: PC-2008-031

NOTICE

To: Mathias Charles Weber

You will please take notice that on the 22nd day of July, 2025, an Application for Approval of the Transfer of Property and an Application for Final Settlement of Estate were filed by April Schultz, Administrator of the Estate of Kirk Carl Weber, and that the 28th day of August, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. was appointed the day for the hearing of the same at the Coffee County Courthouse, Elba Division, Alabama, at which time you may appear and contest same, if you see proper. DONE this 22nd day of July, 2025.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson
Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama
7/31, 8/17, 14 & 21-chg

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN RE: THE MATTER OF Alice Marie Ivey, An incapacitated person.

CASE NO. PC 2019-059

ORDER SETTING DAY FOR HEARING

On the 15th day of July, 2025, came the Conservator, Laura Ivey Wood, and filed a sworn Petition for Final Settlement of the Estate of Alice Marie Ivey. It is ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Court that the 12th day of August, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. is appointed a day for the hearing on review of the accounting and Final Settlement of this estate and at the Coffee County Courthouse, Elba Division, City of Elba, Alabama. It is FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Court that notice of these proceeding be issued pursuant to law. DONE AND ORDERED this the 15th day of July, 2025.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thompson
PROBATE JUDGE
8/7-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SHIRLEY FAYE JOHNSON, Deceased.

CASE NO. PR-2025-155

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Lisa Lozano Johnson and Teresa Denise Patterson, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of Shirley Faye Johnson, deceased, on the 30th day of July, 2025 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. /s/ Jodee R. Thompson

Judge of Probate
8/7, 14 & 21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF PEGGY JOE (ALLEN) WESLEY, Deceased.

Case No. PR-2025-125

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary were granted the 31st day of July, 2025, to Hale Bradford Allen as Administrator of the Estate of Peggy Joe (Allen) Wesley, deceased, who departed this life on the 21st day of March, 2024, by the Hon. Jodee Thompson, Judge of Probate. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Hale Bradford Allen
Hale Bradford Allen Administrator of the Estate of Peggy Joe (Allen) Wesley, Deceased
8/7, 14 & 21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: ALEXANDER BLAKE BECKER, DECEASED.

CASE NO.: 25-116

NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS

Ancillary Letters Testamentary on the Estate of ALEXANDER BLAKE BECKER, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 31st day on July, 2025, by the Honorable Toby Seay, Judge of the Probate Court of Geneva County, Alabama, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate that they are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or such claims will be barred.

/s/ Crystal Khan
CRYSTAL KHAN
Personal Representative
8/7, 14 & 21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The estate of SHIRLEY RILEY WOODHAM, Deceased.

Case No.: 2024-792

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

To: Any and All Other Heirs of Shirley Riley Woodham

Please take note a Petition for Final Settlement having been filed in the Probate Court of Geneva County, Alabama, notice is hereby given by publication that a hearing has been set for the 28th day of August, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at Geneva County Probate Court located at 200 N. Commerce Street, Geneva, AL 36340. All Persons having interest in this matter must appear at said time and place if not otherwise notified. Done this 30th day of July, 2025.

/s/ Toby L. Seay
Toby Seay, Judge of Probate
/s/ Preston Register
PRESTON REGISTER (REG 001)

Attorney for Estate
256 Honeysuckle Rd, Suite 16
Dothan, Alabama 36305
334-678-0100
8/7, 14 & 2-pd.

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7/31&8/7-pd

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LEGAL NOTICES:

(More Legal Notices on Page 4)

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The estate of PAULA H. WIGGINS, Deceased.
Case No.: PC-2025-049

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR

Letters of Administration on the Estate of Paula H. Wiggins, deceased, having been granted to James Lenard Wiggins, Administrator, on the 15th day of July, 2025, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate Court, Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ James Lenard Wiggins
James Lenard Wiggins
Petitioner
Preston Register, Attorney
UNITY LAW, LLC
256 Honeysuckle Road,
Suite 16
Dothan, Alabama 36305
(334) 678-0100
7/24, 31 & 8/7

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CONNIE PHILLIPS, DECEASED.
CASE NO. PC-2025-046

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 21st day of July, 2025, by the Hon. Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Thomas A. Blackstock, Jr.
Thomas A. Blackstock, Jr.
Attorney for JoAnn Segars,
Personal Representative
7/24, 31 & 8/7-pd

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF GENEVA

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by HINES WESLEY CLENNEY, Spouse of TORI NAHLENAH CLENNEY, TORI NAHLENAH CLENNEY, Spouse of HINES WESLEY CLENNEY, on March 8, 2022, to First National Bank of Hartford, which mortgage is recorded in OR Book 1146 Page 108, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Geneva County, Alabama, the undersigned, as Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the said mortgage will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the main entrance of the Geneva County Courthouse in Geneva, Alabama, on August 14, 2025, during the legal hours of sale the following real estate situated in Geneva County, Alabama, to wit:

A parcel of land in Geneva County, Alabama, and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a 3/8" iron pipe marking the purported north line of Section 1, T2N, R23E, and the west R/W of Geneva County Road No. 41, and thence S 22 degrees -00 minutes-57 seconds W 986.58 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe on the west R/W of said road and the POINT OF BEGINNING; and thence along a curve to the right having a radius of 5859.39 feet, a delta of 02 degrees-02 minutes-48 seconds, and a chord bearing and distance of S. 24 degrees -27 minutes -43 seconds W 209.29 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 88 degrees -22 minutes

-20 seconds W 228.66 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 24 degrees -00 minutes -58 seconds E 222.05 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence S 85 degrees -12 minutes -51 seconds E 225.65 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Said parcel of being in the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 1, T2N, R23E, and containing 1.0 acres more or less.

A parcel of land in Geneva County, Alabama, and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a 3/8" iron pipe marking the purported north line of Section 1, T2N, R23E, and the west R/W of Geneva County Road No. 41, and thence S 21 degrees -57 minutes -41 seconds W 944.43 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe on the west R/W of said road and the POINT OF BEGINNING; and thence S 23 degrees -13 minutes -57 seconds W along the west R/W of said road 42.17 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 85 degrees -12 minutes -51 seconds W 225.65 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence S 24 degrees -00 minutes -58 seconds W 222.05 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence S 88 degrees -22 minutes-20 seconds W 683.54 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 36 degrees -01 minutes -05 seconds E 120.71 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 51 degrees -51 minutes -40 seconds E 262.16 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 28 degrees -47 minutes -43 seconds E 6.09 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence S 85 degrees -12 minutes -51 seconds E 737.59 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Said parcel of being in the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 1, T2N, R23E and containing 3.9 acres more or less.

A parcel of land in Geneva County, Alabama, and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a 3/8" iron pipe marking the purported north line of Section 1, T2N, R23E, and the west R/W of County Road No. 41, and thence S 23 degrees -03 Minutes -04 seconds W 1405.25 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe on the west R/W of said road and the POINT OF BEGINNING; and thence S 27 degrees -45 minutes -23 seconds W along the west R/W of said road 44.55 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 88 degrees -22 minutes -20 seconds W 811.28 feet to n 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 23 degrees-04 minutes-30 seconds W 50.32 feet to a 5/8", iron pipe, thence N 08 degrees -01 minutes -15 seconds W 116.8.0 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence N 36 degrees -01 minutes -05 seconds E 84.39 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence S 88 degrees -22 minutes -20 seconds 683.54 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence S 26 degrees -30 minutes -43 seconds W 210.00 feet to a 5/8" iron pipe, thence S 88 degrees -22 minutes -20 seconds E 228.66 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Said parcel of being in the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 1, T2N, R23E, and containing 3.7 acres more or less.

Property Address: 11971 Co Road 41, Hartford, AL 36344

Together with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging. Said property will be sold on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis subject to the right of way easements and restrictions of record in the Probate Office of Geneva County, Alabama, and will be subject to existing special assessments, if any, which might adversely affect the title to the subject property. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that

help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

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Mortgagee
David F. Holmes
DAVID F. HOLMES, P.C.
Post Office Box 1180
Slocomb, Alabama 36375
(334) 886-3123
Attorney for Mortgagee
7/24,31&8/7-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MAX WOOD JR., DECEASED,

DANIELLE ELIZABETH RICH MARSHALL, PETITIONER.

CASE NO. 25-0092

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of Max Wood Jr., deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 17th day of July, 2025, by Toby L. Seay, the Judge of the Probate Court of said County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Danielle Elizabeth Rich Marshall
Danielle Elizabeth Rich Marshall
Personal Representative
Attorney for Estate:
Jeffery D. Hatcher
P.O. Box 189
Geneva, Alabama 36340
7/24, 31 & 8/7-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ROYCE DOTSON CREWS, DECEASED.
CASE NO. 2025-106

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to Rosemary Harrison, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Royce Dotson Crews, deceased, on the 14th day of July, 2025, by the Toby Seay, Geneva County Probate Judge. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Rosemary Harrison
Rosemary Harrison,
Personal Representative
7/24, 31 & 8/7-pd

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, GENEVA COUNTY.

IN THE PROBATE COURT CASE NO. 25-111

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of Terry Eugene Tew, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 21st day of July, 2025, by the Judge of the Probate Court of said County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. Respectfully Submitted on this the 21st day of July, 2025.

/s/ Deborah Bradley Tew
Deborah Bradley Tew
Personal Representative of said Estate.

Jeffrey T. Gray
Attorney for Estate
Post Office Box 224
Geneva, Alabama 36340
(334) 248-6666
7/31, 8/7 & 14-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF Robert Hill Evans, Deceased.
CASE NO. PR-2025-153

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of Robert Hill Evans, deceased, having been granted to Christine Marie Shaw, Personal Representative, on the 28th day of July, 2025, by the Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson
Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama
Richard W. Whittaker, Attorney
300 E. Lee Street
Enterprise, AL 36330
(334) 393-5146
7/31, 8/7 & 14-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN RE: ESTATE OF HELGA K. LEONARD, DECEASED
CAUSE NO. PR-2025-141

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF COFFEE

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 28th day of July, 2025, by the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, to PEGGY SUE CHAVES to serve as Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF HELGA K. LEONARD, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims in or against the Estate of Helga K. Leonard that they shall and will be required to present any and all claims against said Estate to Clerk of the Court for probate and registration as is required within the time allowed by law, or said claims will be barred.

/s/ Charles H. Ellzey
Charles H. Ellzey (ELL077)
Estate Attorney
PO Box 764
Elba, AL 36323
334-403-5691
chas@chellzeylaw.com
7/31, 8/7 & 14-pd

CASE NO. PR-2025-108

NOTICE OF HEARING RE LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

State of Alabama, Probate Court of Coffee County
In the matter of the Estate of: **RUSSELL EDWIN HOLLINHEAD, deceased,**

Case No. PR 2025-108:

To the heir(s) at law of the aforementioned matter: On the 28th day of July 2025, the Honorable Jodee Thompson, Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama set a second hearing date in regard to the approval or denial of the Petition to Probate the Will of Russell Edwin Hollinhead, deceased, approval or denial of Petition of Clayton Eugene Hollinhead to serve as Executor of Estate, and the granting or denial of Letters of Administration to Clayton Eugene Hollinhead as Executor, for the Estate Russell Edwin Hollinhead, deceased. Trial to be held on the 3rd day of September 2025 at 8:30 AM. Hearing location: Coffee County Probate Court, 101 S. Edwards Street, Enterprise, Alabama, 36330. Notice is hereby given to aforementioned heir(s) at law of said Estate Filings, of forthcoming hearing regarding the approval or denial of: Clayton Eugene Hollinhead's Petition to Probate the Will of Russell Edwin Hollinhead, Petition of Clayton Eugene Hollinhead to serve as Executor of the Estate, and

the granting of Letters of Administration to Petitioner aforementioned in this matter.
7/31,8/7,&14-chg.

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Jeffery Joe Cowan and Doris Suzanne Boyett-Cowan, to First National Bank of Hartford, in Hartford, Alabama, executed on or about the **9th day of April, 2021**; said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Geneva County, Alabama, in **OR Book 1103, Page 407**; the undersigned as Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage; will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Geneva, Geneva County, Alabama, on **Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.**, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Geneva County, Alabama, to-wit:

NE ¼ of NE ¼, N ½ of SE ¼ of NE ¼, E ½ of NW ¼ of NE ¼, Section 15, and all that portion of Northwest Quarter of NW ¼, Section 14, lying West of the Geneva-Newton Road, containing 3 acres, more or less, and containing in all 83 acres, more or less, all of said land lying and being situated in Township 1, Range 22, in Geneva County, Alabama, subject, however, to right of way for an electrical power line to the Alabama Power Company.

LESS AND EXCEPT THE TWO FOLLOWING PARCELS:

A/An 20.000 acre, more or less, parcel of land parts being in the E ½ of NE ¼ of Section 15, Township 1 North, Range 22 East, Geneva county, Alabama as surveyed by Wiregrass Surveying Technology, 230 Spring Lane, Ozark, Alabama as shown on Drawing #1221501.dwg dated 12/2/2021 and being more particularly described as follows: COMMENCING at a 5/8" Pipe (Cap #CA0086) at the purported SW corner of the NE ¼ of NE ¼ of SEC15-T1N-R22E; thence S0°30'39"E a distance 661.78' to a 5/8" Pipe (Cap #CA0086); thence N89°30'16"E a distance 506.49' to a set ½" Rebar (Cap #CA1179LS) which is the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence N2°03'51"E a distance 1192.29' to a set ½" Rebar (Cap #CA1179LS); thence S78°25'08"E a distance 832.66' to a set ½" Rebar (Cap #CA1179LS) and west R.O.W Geneva CR 41 (80' R.O.W.); thence along west R.O.W a chord bearing S7°56'33"W a chord distance 411.81' (Radius=2963.98') to a set ½" Rebar (Cap #CA1179LS); thence along west R.O.W. S2°03'53"W a distance 610.14' to a 5/8" Pipe (Cap #CA0086); thence S89°30'16"W a distance 779.79' to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

A parcel of land located in the NW ¼ of the NW ¼, of Section 14, and the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 15, all of T1N, R22E, Geneva County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a capped rod set, 27401 marking the intersection of the North line of Section 14 and the West R/W of Geneva County Road #41 (90' R/W); thence S19°04'07"W along said West R/W a distance of 372.00 feet (CRS, 27401); thence S89°50'00"W a distance of 372.00 feet (CRS, 27401); thence N19°04'07"E a distance of 372.00 feet to the North line of Section 14 (CRS, 27401); thence N89°50'00"E along the North Line of Section 14 a distance of 372.00 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 3.00 acres more or less.

This property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of the Office of the Judge of Probate of the county where the above-described property is situated. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto.

This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. This sale is subject to the Statutory Right of Redemption pursuant to Alabama Code Section 6-5-248 and/or Act 2015-79.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation; contact Jeffrey T. Gray at the phone number shown below prior to attendance at sale.

Jeffrey T. Gray
Attorney for First National Bank of Hartford
P. O. Box 224
Geneva, Alabama 36340
(334) 248-6666
8/7,14,&21-pd.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

DISASTER DEBRIS REMOVAL, DISPOSAL and REDUCTION CONTRACT COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed proposals will be received by the Coffee County Commission at the Office Complex in New Brockton, Alabama, until 9:00 A.M., September 10, 2025, and then publicly opened for furnishing all labor, equipment, materials and performing all work required by Coffee County and described as follows:

Provide services to remove, dispose and reduce all eligible disaster generated debris from Coffee County, Alabama Rights-of-Way (ROW) including county roads, state roads, city streets, parks, public property and drainage easements. The area to be included as part of this contract is located entirely within the limits of Coffee County.

The contract period shall be for 12 months with an option to issue a second and third 12-month contract under the same pricing, terms and conditions.

A certified check or bid bond payable to the Coffee County Commission for an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the amount bid, \$10,000.00 maximum, must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith. Specifications and Proposals may be obtained at the Coffee County Engineer's Office, 1165 East McKinnon Street, New Brockton, Alabama from 6:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M., Monday through Thursday (telephone 334/894-6112). No proposal fee is required.

No bids will be considered unless the bidder, whether resident or non-resident of Alabama, is properly qualified to submit a proposal for this work in accordance with all applicable laws of the State of Alabama. This shall include evidence of holding a current and duly license from the State Licensing Board for General Contractors, Montgomery, Alabama, as required by Chapter 8 of Title 34, of the Code of Alabama, 1975. In addition, non-residents of the State, if a corporation, shall show evidence of having qualified with the Secretary of State to do business in the State of Alabama. The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

Kim Ellis, Chairman
Coffee County Commission
8/7,14&21-chg.

SPORTS NEWS

Non-region powers and top 1A region in state make Elba's schedule toughest ever

The Elba Tigers have been one of the state's winningest high school football teams in recent years and have posted a total of 45 victories and hung up three region championship banners over the past four seasons. While their success is recognized statewide, if the Tigers are to add a new chapter to their rich history this season they must navigate their way through a schedule that includes six road games, seven opponents that posted a winning record a year ago, and three non-region opponents that are all bigger in class and last season combined for a 23-10 record with all advancing to post-season action.

Elba will kick off its season at home on August 22 when it welcomes non-region foe Luverne to the turf at Mack Wood Field. The Tigers defeated Luverne 50-22 in last season's opener and have a 43-31-1 record against their former arch-rival. The two teams met annually from 1949-2005, and since the rivalry has been renewed the Tigers have won four of the last five meetings, averaging 51 points per game in the wins, and being held to only four points in a 20-4 loss. Coach Bobby Hudson, an Elba High alumni, is in his second season as the head coach at 2A Luverne and last season led his team to a 6-6 record in a season marred with injuries. Luverne is a perennial power, having won a total of 626 games in its 105-year football history, boasting ten straight winning seasons and a record 42 straight seasons earning a spot in the playoffs.

Elba will hit the road for the first of six road contests on August 29 when the Tigers travel to Phenix City to challenge the 3A Glenwood Gators. The two teams met for the first time a year ago with the Gators outscoring the Tigers 49-22. Glenwood is coached by Ryan Nelson, in his fourth season at the helm, and in three seasons has led the Gators to a 27-7 record, including a 9-1 record and a region championship a year ago in their first season as a member of the AHSAA, after winning three state titles in the AISA.

Elba will be back on the road and open region play on September 5 when the Tigers travel to McKenzie. Elba owns a 4-1 all-time advantage over their newest region rival and had outscored McKenzie 273-47 until last season, when it was outscored 80-78, in four overtimes. Coach Brian Bradford is in his third year as the head coach at McKenzie and in two seasons has led his team's to a 15-7 record, including a 10-2 mark a year ago, has scored over 41 points a game, and last season led McKenzie to its first region title since 2010.

Elba will wrap up its early-season three-game road trip on September 12 when the Tigers head to Kinston in a key region match-up. The Tigers own a perfect 8-0 series record in a rivalry that began in 1929, but wasn't renewed until 2018, and in the eight wins have outscored the Bulldogs 337-94 and a

year ago claimed a 68-28 victory. Coach Rudy Free is in his seventh season at Kinston and owns a 22-39 record, including the teams' first playoff win since 1987. Kinston has posted a 9-21 record the past three seasons and last season averaged over 28 points per game.

Elba will be back home on September 19 when the Tigers close out a stretch of three straight region wars against Brantley. Elba holds a 35-12 series edge over the Bulldogs, has won five of the last six meetings, a year ago won a wild 57-53 shootout and in the last three wins has scored over 49 points per game. Brantley is under the leadership of first year head coach Andrew Lowery, a former Bulldog quarterback, who inherits a team that missed the playoffs last year for the first time since 1996, but has posted 23 straight winning seasons and has claimed 15 region titles over the past 22 seasons.

Elba will be back on the road on September 26 when the Tigers travel to Goshen in their final non-region clash of the season. Elba owns a 9-0 series edge over the 2A Eagles and a year ago posted a 48-34 win, in a series that was renewed last year after the two teams met annually from 2010-2017. Don Moore is in his fifth year as the Eagles head coach and has a 24-19 record, including a 23-10 record the last three years in which they made two trips to the playoffs and averaged over 40 points per game.

Elba will return home, swing back into region action and celebrate homecoming on October 3 when they host Red Level. The Tigers own an 8-1 series edge and defeated Red Level 46-6 last season, with the only loss being a 7-6 setback way back in 1925. The last three years the Tigers have outscored Red Level 161-34. Kenny Sipper is in his ninth year as the head coach at Red Level and has a 20-58 overall record, and a 14-44 region record. Red Level enjoyed its last winning season in 2006 and made its last playoff appearance in 2010.

Elba will play its final home game of the regular season on October 10 when the Tigers honor their seniors in a region clash against Pleasant Home. The Tigers boast a perfect 5-0 record against the Eagles in the series that began in 2018, last season posted a 56-8 win, and in the last four meetings has outscored Pleasant Home 219-28. Michael Smith will be in his first season as the head coach at Pleasant Home and inherits a team that has posted a 9-60 overall record and a 6-45 region record the last seven seasons.

Elba will remain in region play on October 17 when the Tigers travel to Georgiana, in what could be a crucial region clash for both teams. The Tigers, which won 49-22 a year ago in the regular season and 62-20 in the playoffs, own a 10-6 series edge over the Panthers, and have won five straight meetings after losing six straight from 1993-2018. The five-game winning streak has been

Elba Tigers	
2025 Football Schedule	
Aug. 22	Luverne
Aug. 29	at, Glenwood
Sept. 5	at, McKenzie *
Sept. 12	at, Kinston *
Sept. 19	Brantley *
Sept. 26	at, Goshen
Oct. 3	Red Level *
Oct. 10	Pleasant Home *
Oct. 17	at, Georgiana *
Oct. 24	at, Florala *
(* denotes region opponent)	

highlighted by offense, as the Elba defense has allowed over 20 points per game in the recent games. Berry Bess is in his fifth year as the head coach at Georgiana and has a 25-21 record and a 3-3 playoff record. Since an 0-10 season back in 2021, the Panthers have posted a 25-11 overall record and a 17-6 region record.

Elba will close out the regular season on the road on October 24 when the

Tigers travel to Florala for a region clash with the Wildcats. The Tigers, which won 40-24 last season, own a 19-14-4 series edge and have five straight meetings. Kyle Davis is in his second season as the head coach at Florala, and in his first year at the helm led the Wildcats to a 7-4 overall record and a 4-3 region record. Florala has posted three straight 7-4 seasons and has made three straight playoff trips after a 3-7 record in 2021.



Wilson leads Team Alabama

The 13th annual 'Southern Junior Cup' golf tournament was held last week at Chenal Country Club, in Little Rock, Arkansas, and sparked by the play of Elba's Jay Wilson, Team Alabama claimed its ninth straight championship in the series.

Team Alabama trailed Arkansas four to three-and-a-half after the opening round, but picked up five points in the second round to grab an eight-and-a-half to seven-and-a-half advantage, and then closed out in style in singles play to win the event. Team Alabama finished the tournament with 16.5 points, followed by Arkansas with 15.0, Missouri with 10.0 and Oklahoma with 6.5

The annual co-ed Ryder Cup style team competition included the top male and female junior golfers from Alabama, Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. The first two rounds featured 18-hole match play competition in '4-Ball' and '4-Some' scenarios, with each team consisting of one male and one female golfer, while the final day featured singles matches, still using match play rules. Twelve points were up for grabs in each of the opening two rounds, with a win worth one point and a tie worth half a point, with 24 points on the line on the final day in individual play. Each state competed against each other with all four states competing in an equal number of matches against the remaining three state teams.

Team composition was based upon the top three ranked junior golfers in each state, a state's junior champion, and captain's picks.

Elba's Jay Wilson teamed with Prattville's Julie Waldo in the opening '4-Ball' match and posted a 3 & 2 win over Oklahoma. The Alabama golfers were up two holes at the turn, went four up on the 13th and easily held on for the win, and one point.

Wilson and Waldo teamed up again in the second round in '4-Some' competition and was again dominant with a 4 & 3 win. The duo was only one up after nine holes, but won three of the first four holes on the back nine to take command and added another point to the team total with the win.

Wilson competed against Harper Ackerman, from Missouri, in individual play, and needed all 18 holes to win half-a-point. Wilson was down two holes after six holes, but rallied late and was all square heading into the back nine. Wilson found himself two down, again, after just two holes on the back nine and was still two holes down heading to the 16th, but birdied the par three to pull within one, and then dropped in a crucial putt on the final green to pull even and pick up half a point.

Team Alabama members included (Boys) J.P. Groat, Ft. Payne; Andrew Woods, Homewood; Witt Cayce, Fairhope; Jay Wilson, Elba; Murray Walker, Loxley; S.J. Thomas, Birmingham; (Girls) Courtney Grace, Birmingham; Julie Waldo, Prattville; Esha Gupta, Auburn; Shiloh Gilbert, Millbrook; Kamdyn Kelley, Dothan; and, Merritt Daniel, Trussville.

The annual junior event is sponsored by Edwin Watts Golf.

Views From
The Pressbox
By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Another school year has started and while it is a little hard to believe, our oldest grandson Lawson will be entering the ninth grade. I remember back when he first started his Mom bought an extra-large t shirt with his senior class date on the front and how it almost reached the ground. Now the shirt almost fits, and for the ninth straight year he had his picture made in front of the school the day before classes started. Praying for the best year ever!

For what it is worth....

*** Most people from my generation will tell you that Johnny Martin was the best golfer to ever come out of Elba Country Club, but his grandson Jay Wilson may soon take his place in the minds of many as the teenage wonder continues to challenge the best players and courses in the nation. Last week he represented Elba on 'Team Alabama' at a team challenge in Arkansas and posted two wins and one tie in the match play event to help his team bring home the trophy for the ninth straight year. With two individual state championships already on his resume, as well as countless other titles, Jay is well on his way to taking over the top spot as the 'best ever,' a title I know his granddad would have been glad to pass down.

*** The third installment of this year's preseason football preview takes a look at the schedules of the teams in the area, and after going through each schedule it looks like every team will face more than their share of challenges during the season.

Elba competes in one of the toughest regions in the state in Class 1A along with Brantley, McKenzie, Georgiana and Florala, but the key to another winning season could very well be how the Tigers come out of their first two games on the schedule. Elba will open the season at home against a Luverne team that is loaded and talking about a return to dominance in the 2A ranks, while in week two the Tigers will face 3A Glenwood, on the road, in a rematch against a team that went 9-1 last season and has no doubt reloaded for a run at a state title. These two games may be against non-region opponents. However, after just two weeks everyone in Tigertown should have a pretty good idea of what to expect.

New Brockton appears to have a very manageable schedule and could very well be the surprise team in its region and compete for a region title. Opp, Dale County and Pike County should be the teams to beat and will all be good, but the Gamecocks will take the field with a new desire to be winners and with a couple of less than powerful non-region opponents on the schedule should be able to stay healthy and make a real run at the playoffs.

Zion Chapel faces a murderer's row in mid-season with three straight region contests against Goshen, Highland Home and Georgiana, but Pike Liberal Arts appears to be the only other team in the region with a chance at sliding into the top four, making a return to the post-season a real possibility. When you combine region pushovers Barbour County and Calhoun with non-region cupcakes like Ellwood Christian and Pleasant Home, it isn't hard to see another winning season on the way for the Rebels.

Kinston has never backed down from a challenge ever since Rudy Free began walking the sidelines and this season is no different as the Bulldogs will face 2A challengers Zion Chapel, Geneva County and Samson as their non-region foes. With region opponents such as Elba, McKenzie, Georgiana and Brantley already on the schedule many would have thought an easy win or two would have been nice, but that ain't the case and it looks like another challenging season ahead.

Brantley had been the cream of the crop in the 1A ranks for decades before stumbling a bit in recent years, and while the Bulldogs compete in one of the state's toughest regions along with Elba, McKenzie, Georgiana and Florala, they never back down and again this season will play non-region 2A powers Highland Home, Luverne and Ariton. Brantley may have a couple of what should be easy wins on the schedule early, but face Elba, Highland Home, Georgiana, Florala and McKenzie in consecutive weeks, and must survive to be a factor in post-season play.

*** While doing research on schedules and teams for this week's preseason preview I had to stop and look at some of the teams that were on schedules of the area teams over the years, and found it quite amusing and a little surprising.

A look at some of Elba's ex-rivals brought back memories, while the number of times the Tigers played the teams was a bit of a surprise. Some of the teams, and number of games played included Andalusia (53), Carroll (26), Charles Henderson (54), Enterprise (44), Geneva (63), Opp (86) and Pike County (37). A few teams that didn't bring back memories included games against Coffee Springs, Dozier, Marion Military Institute, Newton, Newville and Troy State.

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SPORTS NEWS

Zion Chapel looking to continue yearly improvement with more region wins

After adding two wins to their record each of the past three years, the Zion Chapel Rebels and their fans are anxious to see if this could be the year the Rebels take their next giant leap and claim their first region title in school history.

Zion Chapel won just one game in 2021, but upped its win total to three games in 2022, then to five wins in 2023 and last season posted seven wins. The steady improvement has Rebel fans in high hopes for the upcoming season, despite the fact the region includes three of the top teams in the 2A ranks and two of the region match-ups will be on the road.

Zion Chapel will open the season on August 22 when the Rebels travel to cross-county rival Kinston. The Rebels own a 26-22 series edge and last season posted a 26-22 win, but has split the last six meetings and has dropped four of the last five games played in Kinston, making this series a true rivalry. Kinston is coached by Rudy Free, in his seventh season with the Bulldogs.

Zion Chapel will host Ellwood Christian in its home opener on August 29. The Rebels own a 1-0 series edge over the Eagles and last season posted a big 36-0 win. Gerral Pinkston is in his second year as the head coach at Ellwood, which over the last five seasons has posted a 1-48 record and last season was outscored 329-14.

Zion Chapel will kick off region play on September 5 when it travels to Goshen.

The Rebels have a 6-27 series record against the Eagles, have lost the last 11 meetings and last year lost 44-21. Don Moore is in his fifth year as the head coach at Goshen, which has posted a 23-10 record the last three seasons and made two trips to the playoffs.

Zion Chapel will remain in region play on September 12 when the Rebels host Highland Home. The Rebels have an 8-13 series record against the Flying Squadron. Phillip Coggins is back as the head coach at Highland Home, which over the past three seasons has posted a 35-5 record and emerged as a state power in Class 2A.

Zion Chapel will travel to Luverne on September 19 for a key region match-up. The Rebels are 0-9 all-time against the Tigers and last season suffered a 63-0 loss. Bobby Hudson is in his second season as the head coach at Luverne, which has posted 10 straight winning seasons and advanced to the post-season a record 42 straight years.

Zion Chapel will have an open date on September 26, but will be back in action on October 3 when the Rebels host Pike Liberal Arts, in another key region clash. The Rebels have a 2-0 record against the Patriots, with both wins coming by forfeit. William Moguel will be in his third season at the head coach at Pike Lib, and while his teams have posted a 6-22 record, seven wins were lost due to forfeits.

Zion Chapel will cross the state line on Oct. 10 when the Rebels challenge

the Baker Gators. The Rebels have a 2-3 record in the series and last season posted a 21-20 win in the first meeting between the teams since 1965. Baker posted a 7-4 record last season and is led by head coach Matt Brunson, who returned last season after leading the Gators from 2011-2019.

Zion Chapel will be at home on October 17 when it returns to region play against the Calhoun Tigers. The Rebels own a 9-2 series edge against the Tigers, have won seven straight meetings and last season posted a 35-0 win. Ervin Starr is in his seventh year as the head coach at Calhoun and has an 8-63 record.

Zion Chapel will close region action on the road on October 24 when the Rebels head to Barbour County. The Rebels have a 1-1 series record against the Jaguars and last season posted a 42-6 win. Robin Tyra is in his first season as the head coach at Barbour County, which has gone winless eight times in the past 11 seasons and during that stretch has posted a 3-99 record.

Zion Chapel will close the regular season on October 31 with a home match-up against the Pleasant Home Eagles. The Rebels own a 14-5 series edge over the Eagles, have won eight straight meetings and last season posted a 43-14 win. Michael Smith is in his first season as the head coach at Pleasant Home, which over the past seven seasons has posted a 9-60 record.

Kinston Bulldogs

2025 Football Schedule

Aug. 22 Zion Chapel
Aug. 29 Geneva County
Sept. 5 at, Red Level *
Sept. 12 Elba *
Sept. 18 Georgiana *
Sept. 26 at, Samson
Oct. 3 at, Florala *
Oct. 10 McKenzie *
Oct. 17 at, Pl.Home
Oct. 24 Brantley *
(* region opponent)

Zion Chapel Rebels

2025 Football Schedule

Aug. 22 at, Kinston
Aug. 29 Ellwood Christian
Sept. 5 at, Goshen *
Sept. 12 Highland Home *
Sept. 19 at, Luverne *
Sept. 26 Bye
Oct. 3 Pike Liberal Arts *
Oct. 10 at, Baker
Oct. 17 Calhoun *
Oct. 24 at, Barbour Co. *
Oct. 31 Pleasant Home
(* region opponent)

New Brockton Gamecocks

2025 Football Schedule

Aug. 22 Pike Liberal Arts
Aug. 29 Slocomb
Sept. 5 at, Opp *
Sept. 12 Daleville *
Sept. 19 at, Dale County *
Sept. 26 Monroe County
Oct. 3 Geneva *
Oct. 10 at, Ashford *
Oct. 17 Straughn *
Oct. 24 at, Pike County *
(* region opponent)

Brantley Bulldogs

2025 Football Schedule

Aug. 29 Luverne
Sept. 5 at, Pleasant Home *
Sept. 12 Red Level *
Sept. 19 at, Elba *
Sept. 25 at, Highland Home
Oct. 3 Georgiana *
Oct. 10 Florala *
Oct. 17 McKenzie *
Oct. 24 at, Kinston *
Oct. 31 at, Arton
(*region opponent)

Kinston Bulldogs hope six home games will add wins

Despite managing only a 5-15 record over the last two seasons, the Kinston Bulldogs and their fans have a reason to be optimistic about the 2025 campaign since the Bulldogs have six home games on the schedule, including home contests against three of the four region foes that claimed playoff berths a year ago.

Kinston will kick off its season at home on August 22 when it hosts its cross-county rivals from Zion Chapel, in a non-region clash. The Bulldogs lost to the Rebels 27-20 last season and stand 22-26 all-time in the series, but have won four of the last five match-ups played at home. Cody Keene is back for his fourth season at Zion Chapel, has a 15-16 record with the Rebels, and has added two wins to the ledger every season since he arrived.

Kinston will be back at home on August 29 when it hosts Geneva County, in a non-region clash. The Bulldogs are only 2-14 all-time in the series, have lost four straight and last season came out on the short end of a wild 72-62 final score. Al Gilmore is in his second season as the head coach at Geneva County.

Kinston will hit the road on September 5 when it travels to Red Level to open region play. Red Level holds a slim 14-12 series edge, but the Bulldogs have won four of the last five contests and last season posted a 38-0 win. Kenny Sipper is in his ninth season as the head coach at Red Level and has a 20-58 record with the Tigers.

Kinston will return home on September 12 when it hosts Elba, in a big region showdown. The Bulldogs are 0-8 all-time against the Tigers, lost 68-28 last season, and in the series has been outscored 344-67. Jon Cooper is in his first season as the head coach at Elba, which has posted 18 straight winning seasons and over the last four years has posted a 45-7 record.

Kinston will remain home and also remain in the region wars on September 18 when it hosts Georgiana. The Bulldogs are 5-10 all-time in the series, lost 48-0 last season and in the last three years have been outscored 118-20. Berry Bess is in his fifth year as the head coach at Georgiana, which after an 0-10 season in 2021 has posted a 25-11 record.

Kinston will be on the road on September 26 when it heads to Samson for a non-region contest with the Tigers. The Bulldogs have a 10-33 all-time record in the long series, but posted a big 63-27 win last season, have won the last four meetings and in the last three years, have outscored the Tigers 133-45. Jason Wambles is in his eighth year as the head coach at Samson.

Kinston will return to region play on October 3 when it travels to Florala. The Bulldogs have a 15-22 all-time record against the Wildcats, lost 41-0 last season and have lost six of the last seven contests, including the last two by a combined score of 94-3. Kyle Davis is in his second year at Florala, which has posted three consecutive 7-4 seasons.

Kinston will be home on October 10 when it battles McKenzie, in a key region encounter. The Bulldogs have a 10-19 all-time record in the series, lost a year ago 58-0, have lost five straight and have allowed over 40 points a game in the five losses. Brian Bradford is in his second season as the head coach at McKenzie and a year ago led the Tigers to a 10-2 record.

Kinston will hit the road on October 17 when it heads to Pleasant Home in a region road clash. The Bulldogs own a 14-11 series edge, won last season 48-20, have won six of the last seven contests, and have outscored the Eagles 147-40 in the last three games. Michael Smith is in his first season as the head coach for the Eagles.

Kinston will close out the regular season at home on October 24 when it hosts Brantley is a big region battle. The Bulldogs are 4-35 all-time against Brantley, have lost the last 27 match-ups and last season dropped a 54-28 decision. Andrew Lowery is in his first season as the head coach at Brantley.

New Brockton looking to bounce back in '25

With six home games and a schedule dotted with new rivalries, the New Brockton Gamecocks and their fans are hoping the 2025 high school football season will mark a new beginning for a program that has struggled since making the jump from Class 2A to Class 3A in 2019, and now finding themselves in Class 4A.

New Brockton competed in Class 2A from 1978 through 2019, with the exception of two years in Class 1A in 1994-95, and during that time made 20 trips to the playoffs. However, during a four-year stay in Class 3A from 2020-2023 the Gamecocks struggled to an 8-30 record.

New Brockton will kick off its season on August 22 when the Gamecocks host Pike Liberal Arts, a non-region opponent it was awarded a forfeit win over a season ago in the first meeting ever. Coach William Moguel, a New Brockton alumni, is in his third season at Pike Lib.

New Brockton will be back at home on August 29 for a non-region clash with Slocomb. The Gamecocks are 0-7 all-time against the Red Tops, lost a year ago 40-34 and have been outscored 232-92 in the series. Paul McLean is in his third year as the head coach at Slocomb and has a 5-15 record, with the Red Tops.

New Brockton will hit the road and open region play on September 5 when they travel to Opp. The Gamecocks are 1-4 all-time against the Bobcats and last season lost 30-27. Ed Rigby is in his second season as the head coach at Opp and will have his team excited after posting a 7-4 record last season.

New Brockton will return home on September 12 when they host Daleville, in another region contest. The Gamecocks hold a slim 7-6 series edge over the War Hawks and last

season posted a big 53-21 win. Maurice Freeman is back for his second season at Daleville and will be looking to improve on last year's 1-9 record, which dropped the War Hawks to 8-42 the past five years.

New Brockton will be on the road on September 19 when the Gamecocks travel to Dale County for a big region encounter. The Gamecocks lost to the Warriors 49-0 last season in their first-ever meeting. Evan Ballard will be in his third year as the head coach at Dale County and has led his teams to an 11-10 record.

New Brockton will take a break from the region wars on September 26 when the Gamecocks host Monroe County. The Gamecocks downed the Tigers 30-7 last season in their first meeting ever. Robert Wilkerson will be in his first season as the head coach at Monroe County, which has posted an overall record of 5-35 the past four years.

New Brockton will stay at home on October 3 for a region clash with Geneva. The Gamecocks claimed a wild 37-35 win over the Panthers last season in their first-ever meeting. Jamel Harris will be in his third season with the Panthers and has a 3-17 record, while the team has posted a 7-23 record the past three years and went winless last season at 0-10.

New Brockton will stay in region play on October 10 when it travels to Ashford. The Gamecocks suffered a 41-0 loss last season to the Yellow Jackets and are 1-2 all-time in the brief series. David Stapleton is in his third year at Ashford and has a 10-10 record, including a 6-6 slate last year and its first playoff appearance since 2014.

New Brockton will close out its regular season home schedule on October 17 when the Gamecocks host Straughn, in a key region clash. The Gamecocks are

7-11 all-time against the Tigers and last season lost 36-33. Garrett Windham is in his second season at Straughn and has a 5-6 record, while the Tigers have posted a 29-16 record the last four years and made four straight trips to the playoffs.

New Brockton will close the regular season on the road on October 24 when the Gamecocks travel to Pike County. The Gamecocks have lost all three meetings to the Bulldogs, including a 42-7 loss last season. Mark Hurt will be in his fourth season as the head coach at Pike County and has a 16-14 record, but has posted back-to-back 4-5 seasons and has missed the playoffs both times.

The Brantley Bulldogs will be looking to bounce back after missing the playoffs for the first time since way back in 1997, but face a daunting schedule that includes a trio of 2A opponents and a five-game stretch in mid-season that will provide a challenge for the Bulldogs as they begin play under the direction of first-year head coach Andrew Lowery.

Brantley will open the season on August 29 at home in a non-region battle against Luverne, in the 92nd renewal of the cross-county rivalry. The Bulldogs are 32-56-3 all-time in the series, but have won three of the last four meetings and last season posted a 40-24 victory. The Tigers are coached by Bobby Hudson and have posted 10 straight winning seasons and 42 straight playoff appearances.

Brantley will begin region play on September 5 when the Bulldogs travel to Pleasant Home. The Bulldogs boast a 24-1 series edge, have won 23 straight games over the Eagles, have posted five shutouts in the last seven wins, and last season posted a 39-0 victory. Michael Smith is the head coach at Pleasant Home, which over the last four years has posted a 5-35 record.

Brantley will be back at home on September 12 when the Bulldogs host Red Level, in an early-season region contest.

24 when the Gamecocks travel to Pike County. The Gamecocks have lost all three meetings to the Bulldogs, including a 42-7 loss last season. Mark Hurt will be in his fourth season as the head coach at Pike County and has a 16-14 record, but has posted back-to-back 4-5 seasons and has missed the playoffs both times.

The Bulldogs have won 21 straight games against the Tigers, lead the series 47-14, have scored 40 or more points in eight of the last nine wins, and last season posted a 48-14 victory. Kenny Sipper is the head coach of the Tigers, which posted its last winning season back in 2006.

Brantley will hit the road on September 19 when the Bulldogs travel to Elba in a key region encounter. The Bulldogs, which have a 13-35 series record, have lost five of the last six meetings against the Tigers, including a 57-53 loss last season, and are 0-3 against Elba since it moved down to Class 1A. Jon Cooper is the head coach at Elba, which has posted 18 straight winning seasons and in five years in the 1A ranks has posted a 34-3 region record.

Brantley will be back on the road on September 25 when it heads across the county for a non-region clash with Highland Home. The Bulldogs own a 55-25 series edge, but have dropped the last three contests, including a 56-6 loss a year ago. Phillip Coggins is the head coach of the Flying Squadron, which has posted a 35-5 record the last four seasons and in the last two years has allowed less than seven points per game, with 11 shutouts.

Brantley will be home on October 3 when it returns to region play against

Georgiana. The Bulldogs have a 16-24-2 record in the series, but have won five of the last six meetings, including a 16-12 win a year ago. Berry Bess is the head coach at Georgiana, which has posted a 25-11 record the last three seasons after an 0-10 campaign in 2021.

Brantley will remain in region play and remain at home on October 10 when the Bulldogs host Florala. The Bulldogs, which own a 27-4-1 series edge, saw a 25-game winning streak over the Wildcats end last season in a 36-22 loss. Kyle Davis is the head coach at Florala, which has posted three straight 7-4 seasons and have posted winning records five times in the last six years.

Brantley will close out a three-game home stand on October 17 when the Bulldogs host McKenzie, in a key region match-up. The Bulldogs own a 40-18-2 series edge over the Tigers, but saw a 13-game winning streak against the Tigers snapped a year ago in a 36-22 defeat. Brian Bradford is the head coach at McKenzie, which posted a 10-2 record and claimed the region title last season, after posting a 22-38 record the previous six seasons.

Brantley will return home on October 24 for a region clash with Kinston. The Bulldogs own a 35-4 series edge, won last season 54-28 and have scored in the 50's four of the last six years against Kinston. Rudy Free is the head coach at Kinston, which has been competitive the last four seasons in posting an 11-19 region record and a 17-25 overall record.

Brantley will close the regular season on October 31 at home with a non-region clash against Arton. The Bulldogs are 16-0 all-time in the series and won 45-27 last season, which was the first time the teams had met after a 15-year absence from the schedule. Steven Kilcrease is the head coach at Arton, which has posted four straight winning seasons and posted a 33-15 record in the process.

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CHURCH NEWS

Homecoming at Woodland Grove Baptist Church set for Aug. 10th

Woodland Grove Baptist Church, located at 5107 County Rd. 239, New Brockton, Ala., will hold Homecoming services Sunday, Aug. 10, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Bro. Buddy Hood will deliver the message while the church choir will present special music. A covered dish lunch will immediately follow in the Family Life Center. All are invited.

Share Your Church News with Us! Call 897-2823



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Basin Baptist Church

Homecoming Sunday, Aug. 10th

9757 Ala Hwy 189 S Elba, AL

Special Music 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Covered Dish Lunch in the Fellowship Hall
Join Us for a great Homecoming Celebration!

Annual business meeting for Zoar Cemetery held in July

The annual business meeting for Zoar Cemetery was held Saturday, July 26 at 10 a.m. in the Morrow Hall Building, located on Coffee County Road 331.

Individuals from nearby and faraway, who attended the meeting, enjoyed both fellowship and visiting gravesites. A financial report was given and project work outlined for 2025-2026.

Anyone with loved ones or friends buried in Zoar Cemetery, who did not attend the meeting, is urged to contribute to the upkeep of the cemetery by personal and financial support. Con-

tributions may be made to the Zoar Cemetery Association Inc. and can be mailed to the secretary, Jo Hodge, at 3631 County Road 306, Elba, AL 36323.

All assistance will be appreciated.



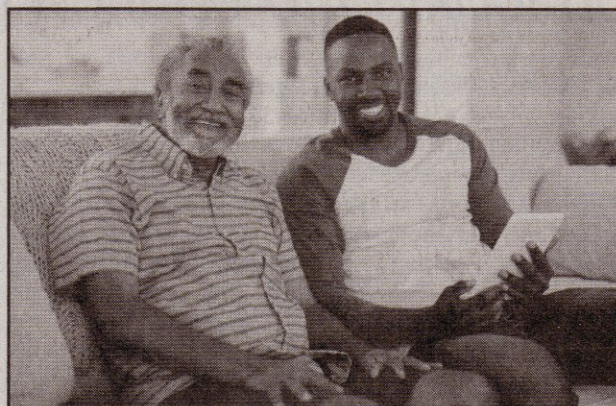
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ROUND AND ABOUT w/ ERIA'S DAUGHTER 334-282-2200



Scripture: Amos 5:24
KJV

Thinking of you! Praying for you!

World Leaders, Melvin Stallworth, Charles Hightower, Otis Andrews, Employees of Elba Travel Center, Shane Williams, Shirley Coleman

July Birthdays/Anniversaries

Rell Smith 7/20
Nathan Smith 7/20
Melvin Cross 7/21
Annie Flowers 7/21
Ben Rayborn 7/21
Kiki Oliver 7/21
Tim Andrews 7/22
Kim Davis 7/22
Min. Randy Miller 7/22
Gavin Respress 7/23
Henry/Margaret Rowe 7/23 W.A.
Shannon Grizzell 7/23

We don't know our own strength

When a person shakes our hand and squeezes too hard, or hugs us and embraces too tightly, we sometimes say, "He doesn't know his own strength!" In some cases, there is more truth to that statement than meets the eye. We read of individu-

als coming to the aid of a loved one who is pinned under the wreckage of an automobile accident. Suddenly they find themselves able to lift something they could not ordinarily lift. The crisis gave them a "rush" of adrenaline that provided a strength far beyond their ordinary ability. Something similar to this may be said with regard to our spiritual strength. Because that strength comes from God and not from us, it is far greater than we realize. Many have found themselves able to endure a period of suffering that they would never have thought they could endure. Many have found victory over temptations that they had thought too strong for them. Martin Luther said it well in his great hymn, "A mighty Fortress Is Our God," "Did we in our own strength confide our striving would be losing." Regardless of the situation we face, even if we have never faced it before, God's Strength will never prove inadequate. For every Christian it can truly be said "he doesn't know his own strength" – for the Christian's strength is God's. -R.C.S.

Question/Answer Section

Questions and Answers for the week of 7-31-2025
Fill in the Blanks

- (Q) He tended his father-in-law's sheep in the desert of Sinai. ____
(A) Moses – Exodus 3:1
(Q) He spent forty days in the desert of Judea, fasting and being tempted by Satan. ____
(A) Jesus – Luke 4:1,2
(Q) He frequently retreated to the desert to get away from the crowds. ____
(A) Jesus – Mark 6:31, 32

Thought to Remember
God is here with us.

Questions for the week of 8-7-2025

Fill in the Blanks

- (Q) After his conversion, he spent time in the desert of Arabia sorting out what had happened to him. ____
(Q) He announced the coming of the Messiah by Preaching repentance in the desert of Judea. ____
(Q) God sent him to the desert to Preach the gospel to a man from Ethiopia. ____
Today is a good day! Be Grateful!
Eria's Daughter, Sue

Please Vote Tuesday, August 26th



Jane B. Brunson
Elba City Council District 3

Pol. Adv. by Committee to Elect Jane Brunson, 135 Rainbow Dr., Elba AL 36323

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August 26, 2025

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Office: 510 Davis Street W

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Paid Political Adv by Tim Johnson Mayoral Campaign Committee, PO Box 447, Elba, AL 36323